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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Dated: 8 March 1943

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PREFACE

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNW, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1945. Eighty-three of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED] FOIA b3a

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports, beginning with the most recent and working backward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED] FOIA b3a. The numbering of the items was added by the translator [REDACTED] FOIA b3a. The Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] FOIA b3a inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report.

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The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

8 March 1943

More Important Reports

(1) The frequent onion transport in recent times to NKRF-Gurev is explained by a wave of scorbutic illness which was reported in a message with onion demands.

(2) In a message from Stavropol to Moscow, Central Committee of the Party, the responsible leader of the Party Central Committee reports that the damage which the German troops have caused by destruction of telegraph and telephone systems as well as radio central amounts to some 50 million rubles in the North Caucasus. Also he reports that military communications units of the North Caucasus Front have been assigned a share of the reconstruction work. A few inter-city telephone connections have been re-established, for instance between Stavropol-Nevinnomysskaya-Budennovsk-Aleksandrovsk, Mozdok-Krapotkin-Budennovsk. Likewise repair of telegraph lines Stavropol-Moscow and Pyatigorsk-Moscow is already in progress.

Food Situation

(3) Tiflis. The Georgian NK for Trade reports distributing 10 tons of tea in the first quarter.

(4) The Directorate for Food Supply received for January:

Alcohol	24000 liters
Vodka	5970 liters
Wine	2470 liters

The total value of this shipment amounts to 6389000 (?) rubles; nothing was delivered in February.

(5) For delivery there were prepared:

Potatoes	7612 tons
Dried potatoes	34 tons
Sauerkraut	456 tons

From 1 January to 1 March there were procured:

Honey	0.151 ton
Wax	0.331 ton

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(6) The confectionery industry received no sugar in the first quarter so that the plants stopped and can not deliver 200 tons of confectionery in March. A maximum increase of the fat allocation is requested.

(7) The NK for the Aviation Industry reports that of the stock for the first quarter there was received on 1 March:

Meat	22.3 tons
Fish	29
Butter	1.1
Vegetable fat	0.4
Confectionery	14.8
Salt	9
Eggs	10 cases

There was no sugar or tea.

(8) The representative of NK for the Meat and Dairy Industry of the USSR is asked for a free delivery of at least 500 tons of meat which has been seized.

(9) The Armenian NK for the Food Industry requests the shipment of 33000 liters of alcohol which was allotted for the first quarter.

(10) Stavropol asks the NK for Meat and Dairy Industry to approve the processing of 200 head of cattle by the Meat Trust.

(11) The Chief Directorate for Tobacco in Stalinabad delivered 2 carloads of tobacco to Stalinabad Special Trade.

(12) For the workers occupied with ice-breaking, additional supplies must be distributed in Gorkij:

Bread	400 grams
Meat	100
Fat	20
Groats	40
Vodka	200

(13) NKRF-Kujbyshev must deliver to Vladimirovka cut beans 44.6 tons
 Astrakhan cut beans 50
 Kamyshin cut beans 50

Metal Supply

(14) NKRF-Osetrovo in Irkutsk Oblast' received from West Siberian trade

Steel hawser	19x22 mm.	3000 m.
Ships' rope		5 tons

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Chemical Supply

(15) NKRF -Gorkij sent 832 carboys of oxygen in February.

(16) From Sverdlovsk Autogenous Plant No. 3 in the first half-year, the NKRF-operational office of the Ili Waterways received

NKRF-Omsk	Acetylene	1152 cbm.
	Acetylene	3982 cbm.

(17) NKRF-Blagoveshchensk received from the Chief Directorate for Chemical Sales in Khabarovsk in the first quarter:

Sulphuric acid	0.03 ton
Battery acid	0.1

(18) NKRF-Barnaul received from Varkovsk-Starch Trust in Murom:

by 20 March	Dextrin	0.4 ton
by 15 April	Dextrin	0.2 ton

(19) The factory of the Dubitel Trust in Balakhinsk is to deliver to NKRF-Barnaul:

by 20 March	Sulphite liquor 0.35 ton
by 15 April	Sulphite liquor 1.05 ton

Oil Supply

(20) NKRF-Pravdinsk will receive 50 tons of oil in March.

Coal Supply

(21) The ship repair yard in Khabarovsk will receive 50 tons of Suchan coke in March.

The ship repair yard of the Lower Amur Steamship Agency, a branch supply office of NKRF in Khabarovsk, will receive 36 tons of Suchan coke. The ship repair yard "Lenin" of the Upper Amur Steamship Agency in Blagoveshchensk will receive 14 tons of Suchan coke.

Production

(22) NKRF-Kujbyshev built 2 tugs of 400 h.p. in the first quarter of 1943.

(23) NKRF-Vladimirovka reports that the tug boats 730 and 243 need a general overhauling which can not be carried out because of the lack of wood. The estimated cost for the overhauling amounts to 190000 rubles. On 1 March three boats are being completed in Vladimirovka. Because of the lack of wood, no more boats can be built.

(24) NKRF-Chistopol must repair the dock equipment of the Krasnoarmejsk yard by the beginning of navigation period and send it to Stalingrad.

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Transport Situation

(25) On 1 March the following transport arrears of NKRF were determined:

Rybinsk	Oats	2102 tons
	Tow nets	13
	Misc.	217
	Total	<u>2332 tons</u>
Yaroslavl	Hay	9 tons
	Cotton	8
	Bread grains	1371
	Total	<u>1388 tons</u>
Gorkij	Wood	2637 tons
	Bread grains	599
	Metal	884
	Chemicals	467
	Metal products	327
	Cotton	77
	Paper	93
	Spinning material	62
	Complex (?)	172
	Special freight	125
	Misc.	730
	Total	<u>6408 tons</u>
Kazan	Iron	381 tons
	Ore	278
	Brick	180
	Misc.	103
	Total	<u>942 tons</u>
Arkchino	Hay	178 tons

Expenditure

(26) For the reconstruction of Stalingrad-Harbor, NKRF-Ilijsk reports an expenditure of 32822 rubles and receipts through obligations of 63100 rubles.

Miscellaneous

(27) For exceeding the economic plan with regard to wood cutting, NKRF-Omsk received a bonus of 25000 rubles and NKRF-Irtysh for exceeding planned overhauling of agricultural equipment 45000 rubles.